

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05910 161745Z

73

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 PM-03 DODE-00 SPC-03 PRS-01

IO-03 DRC-01 /063 W

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R 161700Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8921

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 5910

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG, PO

SUBJECT: MOBUTU'S ANGOLA POLICY

REF: KINSHASA 8901

1. FONOFF DIRECTOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS LEBRUN BRIEFED EMBOFF OCTOBER 15 ON REPORTS FROM KINSHASA WHICH FONOFF THINKS MIGHT INDICATE PRESIDENT MOBUTU CONSIDERING TAKING ACTION AGAINST PORTUGUESE IN ANGOLA. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR IN KINSHASA HAS REPORTED THAT DURING PERIOD BETWEEN MOBUTU'S RETURN FROM NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS AND DEPARTURE FOR UNGA SESSION IN NEW YORK HE PRIVATELY ASKED ZAIRIAN GENERAL STAFF WHETHER ARMY HAD CAPABILITY OF LAUNCHING OPERATION INTO ANGOLA. GENERAL STAFF REPLIED IN NEGATIVE. SECONDLY, AMBASSADOR REPORTED THAT ZAIRIAN NATIONAL ORIENTATION COMMISSIONER SAKOMBI HAD COMMENTED TO HIM RECENTLY THAT ZAIRE EVENTUALLY WOULD HAVE TO ENTER ANGOLA. FINALLY, AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT ZAIRIAN GENDARMERIE CONTINUES TO ROUND UP YOUNG ANGOLANS IN ZAIRE FOR IMPRESSMENT INTO ARMED FORCES OF GRAE. AMBASSADOR JUXTAPOSED THESE INCIDENTS WITH MOBUTU'S REMARK IN KINSHASA

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 05910 161745Z

SPEECH SEPTEMBER 16 THAT HE INTENDED TO FIGHT NO ONE IN AFRICA EXCEPT COLONIALISM.

2. LEBRUN COMMENTED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO ASSESS THIS INFORMATION BUT THAT SEPARATE ITEMS FORMED ENOUGH OF A PATTERN TO JUSTIFY SERIOUS ATTENTION. HE FELT THAT INFORMATION SHOULD BE PASSED TO PORTUGUESE BUT DID NOT WANT TO GIVE IT UNDUE URGENCY BY MAKING A FORMAL DEMARCHE. THIS RELUCTANCE INCREASED BY LEBRUN'S VIEW OF THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR HERE AS OVERLY EXCITABLE. LEBRUN WONDERED WHETHER USG MIGHT WANT TO PASS INFORMATION TO PORTUGUESE. EMBOFF SAID HE WAS NOT SURE THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD WANT TO SERVE AS CHANNEL FOR INFORMATION BUT THAT HE WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT. BOOCHEVER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BRUSSE05910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BOOCHEVER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731030/aaaaawav.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: KINSHASA 8901
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <05-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOBUTU'S ANGOLA POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AO, CG, PO, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005